

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PATUXENT RESEARCH REFUGE

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 14, 2011*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 75th anniversary of the Patuxent Research Refuge—established in 1936 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the nation's only National Wildlife Refuge created to support wildlife research.

Over the past 75 years, the Patuxent Research Refuge has been the site of countless advances in wildlife and applied environmental research. Scientists working on the refuge have been international leaders in natural resource conservation and their work has improved the health of animals and humans alike. Pioneering work in the field of environmental contaminants undertaken at Patuxent served as the backbone of Rachel Carson's Silent Spring and research efforts at the refuge ultimately led to the banning of DDT.

Patuxent's research community has also made important contributions in the areas of migratory birds, wildlife population analysis, waterfowl harvest, habitat management, wetlands, coastal zone and flood plain management, endangered species recovery, urban wildlife, ecosystem management, and management of national parks and national wildlife refuges.

For those of us who live in this region, the Patuxent Research Refuge is more than a center for the advancement of science. It is an oasis in between two major cities—a site that gives all visitors the opportunity to immerse themselves in nature and reflect on the importance of preserving our environment. Indeed, among my proudest achievements in the Congress is helping to enable increased public access to Patuxent through the expansion of the facility from its original 2,670 acres to its present 12,841 acres.

I want to thank the staff and scientists of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Geological Survey for their continued efforts to preserve this marvelous asset and advance our understanding of our environment. And I urge my colleagues to join with me in congratulating all of those gathered at Patuxent this weekend to celebrate this important milestone.

### EPA REGULATORY RELIEF ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 6, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 2250) to provide additional time for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to issue achievable standards for industrial, commercial, and institutional boilers, process heaters, and incinerators, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2250, the so-called EPA Regulatory Relief Act. This legislation is a special interest giveaway to a few big industrial polluters that won't create jobs but will expose American families to unnecessary and unacceptable health risks.

Despite the urgent need to create jobs and grow the economy, the House Republican majority is refusing to bring the American Jobs Act to the floor for a vote and instead, continues to bring up special interest bill after special interest bill for polluters who want to keep dumping toxic pollution into our air and water without consequence.

We have already seen Republicans grant power and cement plants the license to continue emitting mercury, lead, arsenic and other pollutants. With this bill, Republicans are now seeking to delay and indefinitely block the ability of the EPA to regulate mercury emissions from industrial boilers and incinerators. These rules were called for 21 years ago under the 1990 Clean Air Act and were to have been completed by 2000. According to EPA's analysis, delaying the current deadlines for cleaning up toxic pollution from the nation's largest industrial boilers and incinerators by three years, as called for by H.R. 2250, will result in 22,750 more premature deaths, 143,000 asthma attacks and over one million sick days. For the thousands of families living in the shadow of these boilers and incinerators, this bill will mean more neurological disorders, birth defects, learning disabilities, cancer and cardiovascular problems. Pregnant women and their developing fetuses and infants are particularly vulnerable to the deadly effects of mercury.

The Great Lakes Commission just issued a report finding that mercury levels have dropped by 20 percent thanks to the efforts of local and state governments working with power plants and incinerators to clean up their emissions. However, the report also notes that mercury levels still remain too dangerously high in most of the Great Lakes. All of Minnesota's lakes and streams have fish advisory warnings. This not only has real impacts for human health, but on jobs and our economy. The recreational fishing industry on the Minnesota waters of Lake Superior contributes more than \$10 million to our local economy. 1.4 million Minnesotans fish, generating more than 43,000 jobs and \$4.7 billion for our state economy. H.R. 2250 is certainly a job-killer for Minnesota.

The EPA estimates the cost of compliance for the boiler rule to be around \$3 billion annually while providing between \$17 billion to \$41 billion in benefits to the economy starting in 2014. Bruce Bartlett, former economic advisor to President Reagan, has noted that regulations were responsible for a miniscule 0.2 per-

cent of layoffs in 2010. Despite the evidence, Republicans continue to claim the economic necessity of discarding the health of our children and communities in order to protect a few bad polluters.

For over forty years, America has made tremendous bipartisan progress in cleaning up our environment while maintaining robust economic growth. We need to return to this tradition and refocus our attention on legislation that will actually address our pressing jobs crisis. I urge my colleagues to reject H.R. 2250 and stand-up for the health of American families.

### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF METROHEALTH

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 14, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 175th anniversary of the MetroHealth System, one of the largest, most comprehensive health care providers in Northeast Ohio.

Founded in 1837 as City Hospital, MetroHealth has been providing care to the residents of Cuyahoga County as a not-for-profit, county operated, safety net health care provider. MetroHealth is committed to "responding to community needs, improving the health status of our region, and controlling health care costs." MetroHealth has also been affiliated with Case Western Reserve University for nearly 100 years.

MetroHealth is one of the three largest health care providers in Northeast Ohio and has the only Level I Trauma and Burn Center for Adults in the area. Additionally, in 1982, MetroHealth established its Metro Life Flight air ambulance service. Metro has more than 400 primary care and specialty care physicians that practice at its 14 medical facilities throughout Northeast Ohio. MetroHealth Medical Center provides care to more than 28,000 inpatients, delivers 2,900 babies, has more than 790,000 visits to its outpatient centers and 99,600 patients to the emergency department annually.

MetroHealth has been one of only 32 hospitals in the country to receive a 2010 Triple Gold Achievement Award from the American Heart Association's Get with the Guidelines Program for its treatment of coronary disease, stroke and heart failure. It has also been in the top one percent of hospitals in the Nation recognized with the Premier Award for Quality. MetroHealth has also been honored by Thomson Reuters as a Top 100 Hospital.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing all those who have made the 175th anniversary of MetroHealth System possible.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.